1594 West North Temple, Suite 3610 PO Box 146480 Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-6480

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Matthew Bruce (801) 538-5419, or the Energy Hotline 1-800-662-3633

TAX COMMISSION BUILDING TO RECEIVE ENERGY STAR PLAQUE

The Utah Energy Office, working in conjunction with the Department of Facilities Construction and Management, is actively improving the fiscal health and energy performance of Utah's state buildings. The Utah Tax Commission building qualifies for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's prestigious ENERGY STAR® Label.

On Thursday, June 13, 2002 at 10 AM Lt. Governor Olene Walker will be presenting Rodney Marrelli, director of the State Tax Commission, with an ENERGY STAR plaque that will be proudly displayed on the front of the building. This building rates higher than 81% of similar office buildings nationwide in terms of energy efficiency. The Tax Commission building is located at 210 North 1950 West in Salt Lake City.

For a building to qualify for the ENERGY STAR Label, it must outperform at least 75% of similar buildings in the country. Building owners can rate their buildings and track and manage their energy performance through Portfolio Manager, a publicly available tool on the ENERGY STAR website. Besides office buildings, the ENERGY STAR Label is available to qualifying K-12 schools, hotels, hospitals, and supermarkets.

"The building qualifies because it utilizes indirect evaporative cooling as the primary cooling source, advanced lighting technologies and controls, and progressive operating schedules," says Matthew Bruce, Department of Natural Resources Energy Office State Buildings Engineer. "This building is maintained by a group of energy conscious staff, which is a big part of the efficiency of the building."

Improving the energy performance of state buildings not only saves money, it can also reduce pollution associated with the production of energy. Jean Lupinacci, director of the ENERGY STAR Buildings program said, "We congratulate the State of Utah for managing these high-performance buildings. Utah is leading the way by showing that fiscal responsibility and protecting the environment go hand-in-hand."

The State of Utah became a partner with ENERGY STAR in January this year. For more information please contact the Utah Energy Office in the Department of Natural Resources at (801) 538-5428. For more information on ENERGY STAR, please visit their website www.energystar.gov